

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 232271

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APPROVED BY EUR - J. A. ARMITAGE

C - MR. SHINN

H - MR. JENKINS

S/S - MR. ORTIZ

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R 301608Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 232271

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: RO, US

SUBJECT: JEWISH EMIGRATION

1. RABBI MILLER RAISED FOLLOWING PROBLEM RELATED TO JEWISH EMIGRATION WITH ARMITAGE (EUR) SEPTEMBER 25. MILLER HAD SEEN ROMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MACOVESCU IN NEW YORK EARLIER IN WEEK AND INFORMED FONMIN OF REPORTS HE HAD THAT SOME ROMANIAN JEWS EXPECTING TO EMIGRATE HAD HAD PASS-PORTS WITHDRAWN RECENTLY. HE ASKED FOR ASSURANCE THAT "CEAUSESCU'S PROMISE THAT ALL WHO WISHED COULD LEAVE CONTINUED TO BE OPERATIVE" AND FOR EXPLANATION OF REPORTED PASSPORT WITHDRAWALS. MACOVESCU RESPONDED THAT HE WAS AWARE OF NO ROMANIAN ACTION TO PREVENT DEPARTURE OF THOSE WITH VALIDATED PASSPORTS AND MADE ALLUSION TO CHANGE IN PASSPORT PROCEDURES WHICH MIGHT HAVE CAUSED SOME MISUNDERSTANDING IN CASES CONCERNING MILLER.

2. IN RESPONSE TO MILLER'S REQUEST ARMITAGE SAID WE WOULD SEEK TO CLARIFY SITUATION WITH FONOFF. DEPT., THEREFORE,
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PAGE 02 STATE 232271

REQUESTS THAT EMBASSY SEEK TO OBTAIN CLARIFICATION FROM

RESPONSIBLE LEVEL OF FONOFF, PERHAPS GLIGA WITH WHOM
MILLER SEEMS TO HAVE ESTABLISHED RELATION OF CONSIDERABLE
MUTUAL CONFIDENCE. IT WOULD ALSO BE MOST HELPFUL TO CHECK
ON REPORTS WHICH WE ARE BEGINNING TO RECEIVE FROM CONGRESS

THAT WOULD-BE APPLICANTS FOR EMIGRATION TO ISRAEL ARE
NOT ALWAYS ABLE TO APPLY.

3.

FYI.THE PORTENT OF THE ABOVE FOR CONTINUED CONGRESSIONAL
SUPPORT OF THE TRADE AGREEMENT/MFN-CREDITS FOR ROMANIA
ARE OBVIOUS BUT OUR INTEREST IN SATISFACTORY ROMANIAN
PERFORMANCE ALSO RELATES TO BROADER PROBLEM OF POSSIBLE
REVISION OF JACKSON/VANIK. IF CONGRESS PERCEIVES THAT
"ASSURANCES" OF TYPE GIVEN BY ROMANIA SEEM LESS THAN
EFFECTIVE, DISPOSITION TO ACCEPT JACKSON/VANIK MODIFICA-
TION BASED ON LESS FIRM INDICATION OF SOVIET PERFORMANCE
WOULD BE FURTHER WEAKENED.END FYI. INGERSOLL

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